GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1728
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
ONION INTERVENTION SCHEME
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Onion Intervention Scheme 2000;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has been requesting the Union Government for sharing of 50 per cent loss to Onion Growers under the `Onion Intervention Scheme 2000` in view of the fast perishing nature of onion as a commodity;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government thereon;

(d) the aid given under the scheme to the State since 2000 upto date and the amount of onion procured through such intervention;

(e) whether other Onion growing States have also mooted similar schemes to help the onion growers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d): The Government of Maharashtra, submitted a proposal to Department of Agriculture & Cooperation for procurement of onion under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) during 2000-2001 with willingness to share loss with Central Government on 50:50 basis. Accordingly, MIS for procurement of 65,000 MT of onion at the Market Intervention Price (MIP) of Rs.250/- per Qtl. was implemented in Maharashtra from 20.1.2000 to 29.2.2000. National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) was the Central agency while Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation Ltd. was State Agency. A total quantity of 65000 MT of onion was procured under MIS, with total loss of Rs.9.75 crore which was shared between Central Government and the Government of Maharashtra on 50:50 basis. The Central share of the loss to the tune of Rs.4.875 crore was released to the Government of Maharashtra.

(e) & (f): Recently, on the request of Government of Rajasthan for procurement of onion under MIS, a quantity of 5000 MT of onion at the MIP of Rs.280/- per Qtl from 11.6.2004 to 10.7.2004 has been approved to help the onion growers of Rajasthan.